

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
AUGUST 22, 2021
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALIVE AGAIN CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Welcome: It's time to celebrate, we are in the presence of God. We invite you to joyfully prepare your hearts to receive God's love and to feel connected to the Body of Christ this day. Please take a moment to sign the pew pads. We'd like to keep you informed of what we are doing, so please give us your email, too.

All in attendance are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.

* Please stand as you are able.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

PRELUDE **Elegy** Malcolm Archer
(b. 1952)

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (RESPONSIVELY)

Leader: Whom do you seek here in this place?

People: We seek God, the Creator, who brings us to life.

Leader: Who has told you of God?

People: Jesus Christ, God's Son, has shown us the love of God.

Leader: Discipleship is difficult. Are you ready?

People: We want to be ready. Lord, strengthen and sustain us this day. Amen.

* **OPENING HYMN No. 158 Come, Christians, Join to Sing**
SPANISH HYMN

OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR TWO-YEAR OLDS Allison Moran and
Vickie Sykes

OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR SECOND GRADERS Marcy McAdams

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (IN UNISON)

We are here, Lord—children and grownups; teens and grandparents; young, middle-aged, and elderly.

We offer ourselves to you.

We offer the child among us and the child in us.

We offer the hopeful, visionary teens and youth and the dreams in each of us.

We offer the maturity of adults and the thoughtfulness of both young and old.

We offer the perspective and wisdom of elders and the insights of us all.

In Christ's name, we offer ourselves. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

See Insert

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Chuck and Carla Long

CALL TO CONFESSION

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, and times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)

Patient Lord, we are a culture that wants things to be quick and easy. It's difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. The words of Jesus take time for us to comprehend. Forgive us, Lord, when we are so impatient; when we just want to "get on with it," and be where the action is. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Please give us that extra measure of faith and commitment that we need to be the disciples you call us to be. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION AND MEDITATION (IN SILENCE)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Rest assured in God's presence and love for you, they will uphold and strengthen you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to gather at the chancel steps. Children ages 4 – first grade may then depart for Children's Church in Room 309.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (IN UNISON)

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON **Ephesians 6:10-20** NT Page 195

SERMON **"Alive Again"** Rev. Ross Carter

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

OFFERTORY **Song of the Wanderer** Dan Forrest
William Inabnit, tenor (b. 1978)

The barren land around me lies, my flame is burning low:
Cold and pale the winter skies, and I am far from home.
With my light that burns so dim, am I visible to Him?
Does He hear the fragile song of centuries here below?

He wakes the lark and bids her fly to greet the coming spring,
Wakes our hearts and bids us rise then gives our spirits wing.
He speaks and winter melts away, hears us when we come to pray,
Turns our nighttime into day—our Light, our Life, our King.

Glorious joy of summer sun, the gentle healing rain,
Banishing our tears and sighs, with beauty for our pain.
Earth and sky, lay glory by—Christ the Lord, is drawing nigh!
All creation, bow to Him, from whom all blessings flow!

Blows the wind, and soon will come the autumn of the year
With its golden light of love still shining ever clear.
From the rising of the sun, to the place where day is done,
Peace on earth has now begun to cast away our fear.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

-Johanna Anderson

* **DOXOLOGY** **LASST UNS ERFREUEN**

All Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! UMH No. 94

* **THE APOSTLES' CREED** (IN UNISON) Page 881

* **HYMN No. 670** **Go Forth for God** **GENEVA 124**

* **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE **Festive Scherzo** Malcolm Archer

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Clara and Coy Clayton on their 63rd wedding anniversary by their family. They were married in the Front Street sanctuary on August 23, 1958.

We thank the following for their service during our worship service:

Lay Reader: Janet Van Sant
 Acolyte: Dorothy Gail McKinney
 Crucifer: Kennedy Joyce

MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD serving in August are Doris Jefferson, Linda Paul, Chris Presley, Ellen Ritter, Nancy Sain, and Susan Taylor.

THE PRAYER REQUEST CARDS are located on the tables in the narthex and may be placed in the offering plate or in the prayer request box in the narthex area, or you may email the prayer ministry team at prayer@frontstreetumc.org. A member of the prayer team will collect requests and offer prayers for requests given on the prayer request cards.

ALIVE AGAIN

Join us **this afternoon** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Webb Ave. parking lot for Alive Again! Here we will join in fun and fellowship for the whole family with a mini-food truck rodeo, ministry fair, and games for the children. This is a free event—we will be accepting donations for the food with all proceeds going to Youth missions. Everyone is welcome! Why not take this opportunity to invite a friend to join you? Please park in the Front/Davis St. parking lot and wear a mask.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Get set for another great year of Sunday School! Sunday School for children and youth resumes **Sunday, August 29** at 9:45 a.m.

REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS NOW OPEN

We are excited to announce that our children's choir and Wesley ringers will resume after an 18 month hiatus. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday afternoons beginning September 12.

Children's Choir (K-grade 5): 4:00 -5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
 Wesley Ringers (grades 2-5): 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Room 406

For more information or to register your child, visit www.frontstreetumc.org/music. Please register by **August 30**.

Dr. Matt will need one adult helper for each of the choir rehearsals. Our Safe Sanctuary guidelines require that when working with children, two adults be present in the room. If you are interested in assisting in this way on a weekly or monthly basis, contact Dr. Matt at matt@frontstreetumc.org.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Date	Aldersgate	11:00	Total
7/25	32	114	146
8/1	28	104	132
8/8	38	112	150
8/15	36	99	135

SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 22, 2021

Sunday, August 22

8:45 Aldersgate Contemporary Worship Aldersgate Hall
 11:00 Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary
 4:00 Alive Again! Webb Ave. Parking Lot

Monday, August 23

7:00 Stewardship Team Meeting Zoom

Wednesday, August 25

6:00 Aldersgate Praise Band Aldersgate Hall

Thursday, August 26

10:00 UMW Leadership Team Meeting Library/Room 305
 7:00 Visioning Team Meeting Room 301

Friday, August 27– Sunday, August 29

UMYF Senior High Whitewater Rafting

Sunday, August 29

8:45 Aldersgate Contemporary Worship Aldersgate Hall
 9:45 Sunday School Classrooms
 11:00 Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary

AFTERSCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN

We are accepting applications for our Afterschool (grades K-5) and Underground (grades 6-8) programs! Please visit our website, www.frontstreetumc.org/afterschool for more information and the application form, or contact Katie Porter at afterschool@frontstreetumc.org.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to place flowers in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one: **August 29 and September 5, 19, and 26**. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).

THE UPPER ROOM

The September-October issue of *The Upper Room* is available. Copies are located in the Welcome Center and Narthex.

LIVE-STREAMING

We are pleased to be able to live-stream our 11:00 a.m. worship each week for the benefit of those who are not able to be physically present. For those who would prefer to not be on camera, we endeavor to make the back half of the sanctuary a non-video zone. The balcony is also available for non-video seating. If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to speak with Pastor Ross.

**FRONT STREET
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Our Mission:

Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ

**ALIVE
 AGAIN**

TURN
 VIVE
 CLAIM
 AWAKEN
 ENGAGE
 ORIENT
 FRESH
 UNITE
 JOICE

A Time to RE

Pastors

Rev. Ross Carter
 Rev. Stephan Margeson

Youth Minister

Chris Huneycutt

Minister of Visitation

Leslie Peavy

Organist/Director of Music

Dr. Matt Brittain

Director of Children's Ministries

Marcella Z. McAdams